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Bulletins of American Palæontology. Vol. I. Published by PROFESSOR G. D. HARRIS, Ithaca, N. Y.

THE publication of a purely palæontological bulletin has been undertaken by Professor G. D. Harris, of Cornell University, and the first volume has just been completed. The undertaking of Professor Harris is truly a commendable one, and should receive the encouragement of American palæontologists. Heretofore palæontology has had, in America, no organ of publication purely its own. The literature of the subject has been scattered through a score or more of proceedings or transactions of learned societies and periodicals. If, from now on, Professor Harris' bulletin meets with the coöperation of American investigators which it deserves, our literature will become more concentrated and consequently much more accessible.

The bulletin appears, not at stated intervals, but at such times as material may be ready for publication. Volume I consists of five numbers, which have appeared at intervals since May 25, 1895.

1. "Claiborne Fossils," by G. D. Harris. Pp. 1-52. Plate I. (May 25, 1895.)

Part I of this bulletin is a "Synonymy of the Claiborne sand species of Conrad and Lea, as determined by an inspection of the type collections now at the Academy of Science of Philadelphia." This paper will be welcome to all students of the Eocene faunas of eastern America. The description of species from the Claiborne sands by the two authors, Conrad and Lea, during the same period of time, and without the slightest recognition on the part of either of the work being done by the other, brought about a most confusing state of synonymy. Professor Harris has straightened out this confusion by an inspection and comparison of the type specimens of both authors.

Part II of the bulletin is a description of six new species from the Claiborne sand.

2. "New or little known Tertiary Mollusca from Alabama and Texas," by T. H. Aldrich. Pp. 53-82. Plates II-VI. (June 24, 1895.)

3. "Neocene Mollusca of Texas, or fossils from the deep well at Galveston," by G. D. Harris. Pp. 83-114. Plates VII-X. December 2, 1895.)

This paper was noticed in this JOURNAL, Vol. IV, p. 126, and needs no further comment.

4. "The Midway Stage," by G. D. Harris. Pp. 115-270. Plates XI-XXV. (June 11, 1896.)

In this paper it is shown that between the basal Eocene deposits, or Midway Stage, and the uppermost Cretaceous, there is in the southern states a decided break, both stratigraphic and faunal, so that not a single species is known certainly to have crossed from one formation to the other. These initial beds of the Eocene are treated both geologically and faunally by Professor Harris. The field investigations were carried on in the states of Texas, Arkansas, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia. From his studies Professor Harris is led to believe that a considerable time interval elapsed between the close of the Cretaceous deposition and the beginning of the Eocene deposition in the Mississippi basin, and that wherever good contact exposures are found, there may be found, on careful study, ample evidence of non-conformity.

This initial Eocene fauna is discussed at length, all the old species of Mollusca and many new ones are described and figured.

5. "A reprint of the palæontological writings of Thomas Say; with an introduction, by G. D. Harris. Pp. 271-354. Plates XXVI-XXXII. (December 7, 1896.)

The republication of these papers, originally published from 1819 to 1825, long since out of print and accessible only in the larger libraries, will be appreciated by all those who have had occasion to refer to such literature, and have been unable to find access to it. The following papers are republished, word for word, line for line, and page for page, as written and punctuated by the original author:

1 and 2. "Observations on some species of zoöphites, shells, etc., principally fossil. *Am. Jour. Sci.*, 1st ser., Vols. I and II (1819-1820).

3. "Fossil shells found in a shell mass from Anastasia Island." *Jour. Acad. Nat. Sci., Phil.*, 1st ser., Vol. IV (1824).

4. "An account of some fossil shells of Maryland." *Jour. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phil.*, 1st ser., Vol. IV (1824).

5. "On two new genera and several species of Crinoidea." *Jour. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phil.*, 1st ser., Vol. IV (1825). STUART WELLER.

Eocene Deposits of the Middle Atlantic Slope in Maryland, Delaware and Virginia. By WM. BULLOCK CLARK. U. S. Geol. Sur., Bull. 141, 167 pp., 40 pls., 1896.

During the first half of the century the Tertiary formations of eastern United States were among the most carefully studied and best